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Miss Seeton Draws The Line (A Miss Seeton Mystery Book 2)



Synopsis

Miss Seeton is most embarrassed. Her every attempt at a portrait of little Effie Goffer has become a chilling picture of a corpse. Is Miss Seeton actually drawing a clue to a series of child murders in rural England? Scotland Yard thinks so, and wants Miss Seeton to turn from sketching . . . to catching a killer skilled in a very deadly art. Retired art teacher Miss Seeton steps in where Scotland Yard stumbles. Armed with only her sketch pad and umbrella, she is every inch an eccentric English spinster and at every turn the most lovable and unlikely master of detection.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

The blurb on the book jacket calls her a "lovable female dabbler" and compares her to Miss Marple. It doesn't mention that she's psychic. Miss Seeton is a retired art teacher whose modus operandi is to draw sketches for the police which turn out to mysteriously contain clues to a crime that's been committed (or will be committed.) In this, the second Miss Seeton novel, our hero keeps trying to sketch a portrait of a local girl as a gift for her mother. Imagine her dismay when, no matter what she does, the drawing looks like a corpse. Miss Seeton thinks that she might have had a stroke, but the police think that she just might have a clue to a string of child murders that have been plaguing

the area...

The year is sometime in the 1960s and Scotland Yard is stumped. There is a child murderer on the loose and the Yard has no clue as to who it is or why the children are being murdered. Detective Superintendent Delphick, known as "The Oracle," calls in Emily Seeton, ("MissEss"), a retired art instructor who helped him solve a series of murders in "Picture Miss Seeton," the first novel in this series. MissEss, deeply concerned that she doesn't have much artistic talent, proves just the opposite as her intuitive, and probably psychic, abilities allow her to draw sketches for the Oracle that identify a child at risk, that crack the modus operandi of a series of Post Office robberies, and that identify two very nasty murderers. Along the way, MissEss's empathetic instincts also save an unjustly accused young man, and cause her to unknowingly place herself in great danger multiple times. MissEss, however, has a new friend who recognizes that MissEss and her umbrella ("brolly") are survivors. This friend, newly promoted, crime writer, Miss Mel Forby, proves, in many ways, to be as understatedly brilliant at her job as MissEss is at hers. Heron Carvic clearly loved MissEss and took great joy in writing about her escapades with a dry, subtle wit that may have scorched the village busy bodies, but never disrespected his heroines. This is a five star novel written by a five star author. I highly recommend that you gobble up this series. (I received this copy from the publisher via NetGalley in exchange for an honest review.)

I used to own this in paperback. As with such things, it wore out with reading. So when I saw it available for Kindle, I jumped at the chance of owning it and the rest of the author's Miss Seeton books. She's not Miss Marple, she's no Sherlock... Those mystery hounds are far sassier than our MissEss. But as ladylike as she is, there's a bit of pepper in her that she can't always control. And a lot of insight that comes bubbling to the surface to surprise pretty much everybody. Including her. If you're looking for a mystery solving heroine that's not so hard to take and lovable beyond measure, give Miss Seeton a read. You won't be sorry.

No spoilers in this review. Four stars is my high praise. Five stars is reserved for outstanding books. This is, without doubt, going to be my favourite Miss Seeton story. Extremely well-written and edited and grammatically correct it is a pleasure to read, although there are a couple of glitches in some words which I put down to the digitisation of the book. Miss Seeton has been compared with Miss Marple in some reviews, and to a certain extent this is so, but only superficially. Miss Seeton is described by a Detective at Scotland Yard as a catalyst and catalyst she certainly is in this book.

She has the most delightful monologues in her head that give the readers insight, while the person/people with her have no idea what she is thinking, and invariably jump to the wrong conclusions. The other people in the book are very well characterised, especially the other members of the village, who are all a a real hoot and deserve their places in the story. There are several other characters more on the fringes, but who also add to the enjoyment. There are some truly funny incidents and some absolutely whacky ones, but I can't give any examples without 'spoiling' the story. I will say that the ending 'piece' couldn't be bettered and was very fitting, in fact, one of my favourite parts. I think this book could be read as a stand alone as it does give brief mention to the background of Miss Seeton in book 1.

Even better than Picture Miss Seeton. Moved along steadily at a very pleasant yet brisk enough pace. The characters are excellent and fun. The writing is exceptionally fine and witty. A perfect cozy mystery.

Fortunately for Kindle readers the publishers of the Miss Seeton books decided to release them for our favorite devices. This is the second book in the series and it is just as wonderful as the first book. Miss Seeton, a retired art teacher, lives in a small village in Kent in a cottage which she inherited from her godmother. These humorous, light-hearted books are the tales of her adventures helping the police to solve crimes, sometimes very serious ones, as in this book. I will not give the plot as I don't like spoilers. Suffice it to say, a lot happens in this book, some of it veering into zaniness. Even the seriousness of the crimes takes place outside of the story so there is no gore; this is a true cozy mystery. If you are looking for sex and a noir theme, this is not your book. But if you are searching for an enjoyable read, something to hold your interest and make you laugh, this is the book for you.

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